

# State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

## CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, recent student housing fires in Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania have tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, since January 2000, at least 109 people, including students, parents, and children have died in student housing fires, according to Campus Firewatch; and

WHEREAS, over three-fourths of these deaths have occurred in off-campus occupancies, according to Campus Firewatch; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the students across the nation live in off-campus occupancies, according to the U.S. Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, a number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by the occupants; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that automatic fire alarm systems provide the necessary early warning to occupants and the fire department of a fire so that appropriate action can be taken; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that automatic fire sprinkler systems are a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives of the building's occupants; and

WHEREAS, many students are living in off-campus occupancies, Greek housing, and residence halls that are not adequately protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic fire alarm systems; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and reducing the resulting loss of life and property damage; and

WHEREAS, students are not routinely receiving effective fire safety education throughout their entire college career; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to educate the future generation of our nation about the importance of fire safety behavior so that these behaviors can help to ensure their safety during their college years and beyond; and

WHEREAS, by developing a generation of fire-safe adults, future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim September 2007, as "CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH" in North Carolina and urge all citizens to recognize and observe its observance.



*Michael F. Easley*  
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina this sixteenth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.